

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



JOE ARESIMOWICZ
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

February 27, 2017

Representative William Tong, Senator Paul Doyle, Senator John Kissel, Representative Rosa Rebimbas, and members of the Judiciary Committee. I am Representative Joe Aresimowicz of the 30th District, serving Berlin and Southington. I want to thank the committee for raising HB 7129: AN ACT CONCERNING AN ACCIDENT REPORT FOR A MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT IN WHICH A PERSON WAS KILLED.

Several years ago, two of my constituents, Joe and Sandy DeGrandi, tragically lost their daughter, Tina, in a fatal car crash. We know a number of facts about what happened on the day of the accident: the weather, the approximate speeds of the vehicles involved, the traffic conditions. But, despite knowing all of these facts, no charges were ever brought against the other driver.

I recognize that there are times when even the best accident reconstruction specialists cannot come to a conclusion. However, I believe that in those occurrences, when there is a motor vehicle collision that results in a fatality, we must go the extra mile.

This bill requires that if the police investigation team cannot reach a conclusion, that they report as to why and refer the case to the state's attorney. That office will then have the authority to review the evidence and require further investigation.

I would like to note that my office worked on this proposal with the Office of the Chief State's Attorney last year to refine this bill from an earlier version.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal.